

ABSTRACT

A suppression and protection circuit is used in conjunction with a circuit
interrupter. In one configuration, a voltage clamping device such as a metal oxide
varistor is utilized in a ground fault circuit interrupter product for handling transient
5 surges and overvoltage conditions and is placed in series with a solenoid coil. The
suppression and protection circuit includes a crowbar device across the line such as a
header spark gap to prevent overvoltages, and a low pass filter such as an LC filter for
suppressing transient surges.

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